

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 OES-03 CU-02 SS-15 /038 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:RBMORLEY:MMK

APPROVED BY NEA/INS:DKUX

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R 301813Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USINJC, IN

SUBJECT: INDO-U.S. JOINT COMMISSION

REF: STATE 201486

1. INDIAN EMBASSY DCM VENKATESWARAN AND COMMERCIAL MINISTER DIXIT CALLED AT DEPARTMENT (NEA/INS) AUGUST 28 TO DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR CHAVAN VISIT AND MEETING JOINT COMMISSION. WE PROPOSED SCENARIO ALONG LINES APPROVED BY SECRETARY (SEE REFTEL).

2. OCTOBER 6 - FIRST MEETING OF FULL COMMISSION WOULD COMMENCE 11 A.M. UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP TWO PRINCIPALS. AFTER INTRODUCTORY REMARKS, BRIEF REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMISSION CHAIRMEN WOULD BE HEARD AFTER WHICH SECRETARY AND CHAVAN WOULD RETIRE FOR DISCUSSIONS NOT RELATED TO JOINT COMMISSION. AFTER

PRINCIPALS' DEPARTURE, COMMISSION WOULD CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON DOCUMENTS RELATED TO MEETING CO-CHAired BY UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON (IF AVAILABLE) AND INDIAN
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COUNTERPART.

3. OCTOBER 7 - FULL COMMISSION WOULD MEET SECOND TIME UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF PRINCIPALS FOR PUBLIC SIGNING DOCUMENTS AND PRESS BRIEFING AT 12:45 P.M. AS PRESENTLY PLANNED, THIS SECOND SESSION WOULD BE ONLY ABOUT 15 MINUTES. COMMUNIQUE WOULD BE ISSUED AT THIS TIME.

4. PARTICIPATION - KUX POINTED OUT JOINT COMMISSION AGREEMENT VAGUE ON MEMBERSHIP OTHER THAN SPECIFYING THAT OF SECRETARY AND FOREIGN MINISTER. HE TOLD INDIANS THAT WE FORESAW PARTICIPATION ON U.S. SIDE BY AMBASSADOR SAXBE, UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON, NEA ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON, AND THREE SUBCOMMISSION CHAIRMEN OR THEIR REPS. OTHERS MIGHT ATTEND MEETINGS BUT NOT AS PARTICIPANTS. KUX SAID THAT INDIANS NEED NOT FEEL BOUND BY NEED FOR SYMMETRY AND COULD OF COURSE DESIGNATE WHOM THEY CHOSE TO PARTICIPATE.

5. DOCUMENTS - WE TOLD INDIANS WE THOUGHT PRIVATE AGREED MINUTE AND COMMUNIQUE WOULD BE ONLY OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS PRODUCED BY COMMISSION. BOTH WOULD REVIEW PROGRESS OF COMMISSION TO DATE AND CONTAIN GUIDELINES FOR FUTURE WORK. WE SAID WE PLANNED TO HAVE FIRST WORKING DRAFTS READY FOR INDIANS TO REVIEW BY SEPTEMBER 15. VENKATESWARAN EXPRESSED HOPE THEY COULD RECEIVE DRAFTS BY SEPTEMBER 10 ' BECAUSE OF DELAYS ASSOCIATED WITH INTERDEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES IN DELHI. KUX AGREED TO MEET EARLIER DEADLINE. DIXIT POINTED OUT AS PRACTICAL MATTER WE NEEDED AGREEMENT ON THIRD DOCUMENT - TEXT OF STATEMENTS MADE BY SUBCOMMISSION CHAIRMEN, WE AGREE ESPECIALLY SINCE ONLY ONE SUBCOMMISSION CHAIRMAN WOULD SPEAK ON BEHALF OF BOTH SIDES.

6. INDIANS REQUESTED NEA TO ARRANGE MEETINGS BETWEEN DIXIT AND APPROPRIATE PEOPLE IN OES, EB, AND CU TO DISCUSS SUBSTANCE OF AGREED MINUTE BEFORE PREPARATION OF DRAFTS. THESE MEETINGS SHOULD BE SCHEDULED DURING WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 2-5. IT WAS FELT THIS WOULD SAVE TIME LATER BY ASSURING EARLY IN GAME THAT WE WERE BOTH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON SAME WAVE LENGTH. U.S. SIDE AGREED, AND MEETINGS ARE CURRENTLY BEING ARRANGED.

7. LOCUS OF PREPARATION - WE AND INDIANS AGREED THAT PREPARATIONS FOR MEETINGS SHOULD BE CENTERED IN WASHINGTON WITH EMBASSY/GOI DISCUSSIONS AND FOLLOW-UP AS NECESSARY. WE WILL KEEP YOU FULLY AND PROMPTLY INFORMED AND WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS. WE

ESPECIALLY APPRECIATE CONTRIBUTIONS SUBMITTED NEW DELHI
10560, AND ARE COMMENTING ON THESE IN SEPTEL. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE207489
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RBMORLEY:MMK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750301-0754
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975081/aaaaaaou.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 201486
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 AUG 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDO-U.S. JOINT COMMISSION
TAGS: EGEN, IN, US, USINJC, (CHAVAN, Y B)
To: NEW DELHI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006